28th December 1953]

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I do not think it comes under gambling."

DR. S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI :—" May I know whether betting on horse racing is included in this? " 11-40 a.m.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" No, Sir. This refers only to gambling with playing-cards."

Land colonization scheme for Todas.

* 5 *Q*.—DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries, Labour and Co-operation be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have introduced any land colonization scheme for the Todas in the Nilgiris; and

(*b*) if so, the extent of land brought under cultivation under this scheme?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*b*) The question does not arise."

DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU :—" May I know whether a seven man committee was appointed in the year 1947 to make a survey of the Toda area and also make all possible arrangements for cultivation and creation of colonies in the Toda area? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I am not aware of the seven man committee of 1947. I am aware that one Mr. Srikant, Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Tribes, made certain suggestions in 1951 for ameliorating the conditions of the Todas. The formation of two Land Colonization Societies in a block of 154 acres in Ootacamund was suggested. But the lands in question were situated in Wenlock Downs, which the State Government had decided to preserve as a national park. We could not get a block of 100 acres of Government waste land either in Ootacamund or Coonoor. The Todas were not willing to settle in Gudalur. In view of that the proposal was dropped."

DR. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU :—" May I know whether the Todas will be given the same preference as the Scheduled Castes in this case? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I said that there is no proposal to start any colony at present. If and when we arrive at a definite conclusion in this regard, the suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered."